Appl. No. 10/718,859 Amdt. dated April 15, 2005 Reply to Office action of December 2, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

The applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the allowance of claims 36-39, 41, and 42, and the indication of the allowability of claims 2, 3, 13, 18, 19, 29, 33, and 43-45. By the present amendment, claims 2, 13, 18, and 33 have been written in independent form. Accordingly, these claims are now allowable. Also, all of the claims depending therefrom are allowable. All claims that were previously indicated as not being immediately allowable have been cancelled.

In view of the forgoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application in condition for allowance and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34119US1.

Respectfully submitted, PEARNE & GORDON LLP

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April 15, 2005